

Scientific Integrity Internship

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Washington, DC Office

Date Offered: January -February 2008 through June-July 2009 (6 months) with the possibility of extension.
Priority Application Deadline: November 15; Final Deadline December 4.

The scientific community over the past several years has witnessed significant manipulation, suppression, and distortion of federal government agency science research and federal advisory committees and the censorship of scientists. The UCS Scientific Integrity Program [<http://www.ucsusa.org/scientific_integrity/>](http://www.ucsusa.org/scientific_integrity/) (SIP) works to prevent this practice by publicizing abuses of science, organizing scientists to educate decision makers about the problem and needed reforms, and working to implement systemic changes that will restore scientific integrity to federal policy making.

The SIP intern works with the SIP team to help raise awareness about and understanding of political interference in science with policy makers, the media, and the general public. The intern will take on minor and support major research projects that give scientists and non-scientists alike a better understanding of the use and misuse of science and the real world impact of political interference in science.

In addition to his or her research duties, the intern may draft articles for the web site and on specific issues; organize and participate in SIP team and coalition meetings; and assist with legislative or outreach efforts. As the program is both dynamic and growing, the intern will have significant opportunity to take on new projects as they arise; the internship description will be revised as needed based both on the needs of the program and the skills of the intern. This internship is an excellent opportunity to learn the ins and outs of community organizing, national media campaigns, and legislative and administrative reform. Individuals with post-graduate education, college graduates, and highly-motivated undergraduates are all encouraged to apply.

Basic Qualifications: Candidates should be able to demonstrate strong research skills. Proficient computer skills, particularly with Microsoft Office and internet research are required. Robust written and oral communications abilities, solid administrative skills, and the ability to work independently and as a part of a group are necessary for this position. A comfort with scientific topics and statistics is strongly preferred. Most of all, candidates should have a clear understanding of the scientific process and current threats to the integrity of science, a working knowledge of and interest in the way in which the Executive and Legislative branches of the U.S. government function, and a demonstrable commitment to working in the public interest/non-profit sector.

To Apply: Please submit a cover letter referencing where you learned of this opening, resume, and two writing samples (at least one non-academic sample preferred) to: internship@ucsusa.org [<mailto:internship@ucsusa.org?subject=SI%20Internship>](mailto:internship@ucsusa.org?subject=SI%20Internship) and include "SIP Internship" in the subject line. In your cover letter, please be sure to address your non-laboratory research experience. While the application deadline is December 4, applications received by December 1 will receive first priority.

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